



SHORELINE

FEBRUARY 2004

Remind lawmakers our beaches earn their keep

It's that time again. The start of the Legislature is only a few weeks away, and President Bush set his 2004-05 budget for beach projects.

Our challenge is to convince the Florida Legislature to continue predictable annual state funding for beaches in order to maintain this nationally recognized program's integrity which is necessary to leverage maximum federal and local matching shares.

Our first step was to show the Legislature strong community support.

Thanks to Brevard County, Collier County, Lee County, Palm Beach County, Martin County, Sarasota County, St. Lucie County, Captiva Island, Indian River County, Port Canaveral, St. Augustine Beach, Indian River Shores, Satellite Beach and the Treasure

Coastal Council for passing resolutions supporting the \$30 million program.

Many of you also went before your legislative delegations to urge their continued support.

Our next step is to remind

State of Florida's FY 05 Federal Appropriations Requests for Beach Nourishment

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Brevard Shore Protection Project (SPP) | \$2,000,000 |
| Broward County SPP | \$0 |
| Ft. Pierce SPP – St. Lucie County | \$3,000,000 |
| Lee County SPP | |
| Captiva Segment | \$150,000 |
| Estero & Gasparilla Segments | \$3,000,000 |
| Martin County – Hutchinson Island SPP | \$2,500,000 |
| Martin County – St. Lucie Inlet Management | \$4,000,000 |
| Nassau County SPP | \$0 |
| Panama City Beaches – Bay County | \$100,000 |
| Palm Beach County SPP | |
| Jupiter-Carlin Segment | \$2,800,000 |
| S. Lake Worth Inlet Sand Transfer Plant | \$2,900,000 |
| Ocean Ridge Segment | \$2,500,000 |
| Pinellas County SPP | \$10,000,000 |
| St. Lucie County SPP | \$0 |
| Flagler County SPP | \$0 |
| Sarasota – Lido Key | \$250,000 |
| Walton County | \$250,000 |
| Venice – Sarasota County | \$8,000,000 |

CAPITOL WATCH



the Legislature that Florida's beaches earn their keep.

They are Florida's most recognized and productive economic and environmental resource.

They remain our No. 1 tourist attraction. Their tremen-

dous contributions to Florida's tax based, employment opportunities and property values are inarguable.

Or, as Florida Senate President Jim King says, "Healthy, attractive beaches are to Florida what good snow is to Colorado."

"You cannot underestimate the important effect our beaches have on good or bad tourist seasons." ♦

FLORIDA SHORE AND BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION



Beach briefs

■ **Flagler Beach:** The federal, state and county governments have agreed to pay \$275,000 for a feasibility study to determine whether or not to restore the beach. Although the study will cost between \$1 million and \$1.5 million and will take three to four years to complete, the \$275,000 is the first installment to get the study going. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is finishing the reconnaissance study they began one year ago. The feasibility study is the second phase. Flagler and Volusia counties began looking into federal aid for their beaches after the 1999-2000 hurricane season left the shorelines depleted including the emergency evacuation route on State Road A1A.

■ **Jupiter:** In late January the Jupiter Inlet District began dredging the "sand trap" in the Jupiter Inlet. The trap is an area on the bottom of the inlet just inside its entrance from the ocean. The sand pumped from the trap is being moved through a large pipe across the walkway along the jetty onto the adjacent beach. After that work is complete, the dredge will move north to dredge the Intracoastal Waterway on behalf of the Florida Inland Navigation District. That sand will also be placed on the beach with the inlet sand.



Chaya Minkoff, 15 months old, wiggles her toes in new sand at Higgs Beach. Photo courtesy of the Key West Citizen.

■ **Brevard:** Between November 2000 and April 2001, Brevard pumped 3 million cubic yards of sand onto a 9.4-mile stretch south of Canaveral Inlet to Patrick Air Force Base. Patrick Air Force Base concurrently paced 600,000 cubic yards on the beach. The two-year survey data shows 85 to 90 percent of the sand is till within the system. Last year they added 1.5 million cubic yards of sand along 3.8 miles between Melbourne Beach and Indian River. One year later it still has 96 percent of its sand in the system – 85 percent on dry beach.

■ **Indian River:** Indian River County pumped the equivalent of 33,000 dump trucks full of sand on 2.5 miles

of beach south of Sebastian Inlet. The 2003 turtle nesting season was nearly 54 percent for loggerheads, higher than the three-year average. Jonathan Gorham, coastal engineer for the county, believes the quality of the sand found offshore Indian River County makes for beneficial sand pumping. The beach is 150 feet wide and six feet higher. There were 67,870 loggerhead hatchlings from 820 nests in the project area. To help protect the beach, they planted 140,000 sea oats.

■ **Key West:** Monroe County replaced 374 tons of sand on Higgs Beach that had washed away over the last year. The sand for this project cost \$11,000 and was paid for by the Tourist Development Council. ♦



State beaches fuel Florida's tourism

■ Florida had 75.6 million visitors in 2002, with beaches remaining its No. 1 tourist attraction.

■ The economic impact of Florida's beach tourism for 2002 is set at \$53.1 billion.

■ Beaches contributed an estimated \$0.8 billion in tourist-related sales tax on direct spending in 2002.

■ For every state dollar spent by the state of Florida for beach management, that money is matched with \$1 to \$5 from federal and local sources.

■ Each state dollar spend nourishing Florida's publicly accessible beaches prevents the loss of \$8 in state taxes by out-of-state tourists and resident users of our beaches.

■ The economic impact of Florida's beach visitors including 706,825 jobs in 2002, with earnings (mainly payrolls) of \$16.3 billion. ♦

DEP news

■ DEP Secretary David Struhs has resigned from the DEP effective March 1.

■ Becky Roland has been hired to replace Russell Snyder as Southwest project manager.

■ As a result of a Nov. 19 Rule Development Workshop, the draft rule of 62B-33 FAC has been revised. For information, contact Leesia Koutz at (850) 487-1262, ext. 191. ♦



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Coastal conferences

■ The **ASBPA** will bring beach movers and shakers together with federal policy makers at its **2004 Summit** Feb. 25-27 in Washington, D.C. These include Major Gen. Carl Strock, Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Claudia Tornblum, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The summit, timed to coincide with the start of the federal appropriations process, will include a full day of lobbying and learning on Capitol Hill, as well as working sessions with Members of Congress, Corps officials and key federal staffers. The Capitol Hill sessions include a working lunch with the Congressional Coastal Caucus and an awards reception in the

Capitol that evening.

A more detailed agenda for the Summit, along with registration information for the event, is available from the ASBPA Web site at www.asbpa.org. Summit registration is limited. A limited number of rooms are available at the Washington Court, so those interested in staying on-site should call (800) 321-3010 or (202) 628-2100. To register for the conference by telephone call (239) 489-2616.

■ The Clean Beaches Council and the Beaches of South Walton Tourist Development Council are hosting the **Sustainable Beaches Summit** March 29-31 at Sandestin. For further information, go to www.cleanbeaches.com/sustainable/registration.cfm

■ **Save the date:** The **FSBPA Annual Meeting** is at South Seas Resort on Captiva Sept. 29-Oct. 1. ♦